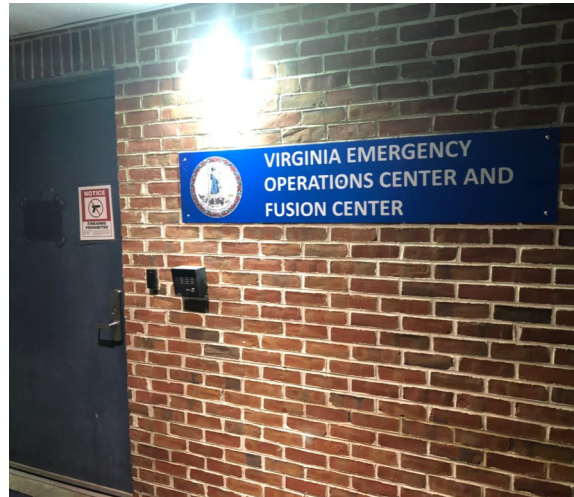


LA Team Reviews Virginia Hurricane Response



Virginia Governor Ralph Northam with Team Louisiana during recent visit to the state.



Virginia EOC.

Louisiana was asked to provide assistance in reviewing the State of Virginia's response to **Hurricane Florence** which threatened Virginia this fall. Staff from the Governor's Office, GOHSEP and DCFS were part of a **state team** comprised of **experienced staff** knowledgeable in emergency operations, sheltering, budget and contracting and communications. The team spent **3 days interviewing** Virginia cabinet level and

state agency personnel with emergency support function (ESF) responsibilities and receiving briefings on **response timeline actions and communication coordination**. While there, the group toured Hampton Roads and the Eastern Shore of Virginia and later met with local emergency management officials from that region for their input on the hurricane efforts.

From The Director



Let me start by **wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season**. While I appreciate what you and your co-workers do on a daily basis, it is also important for

you to spend time with your families and loved ones.

As we moved towards the end of the 2018

Atlantic Hurricane Season, we felt the impact of other weather related emergencies. **Multiple tornado outbreaks** rolled across the state along with the first cold fronts of the season. Looking at some of the death and destruction in other states, we are very **fortunate things were not worse in Louisiana**. While the number of tornadoes was very high, many hit in isolated areas. When tornadoes did hit populated areas, many people talked about hearing the warnings and taking action. That's proof that **emergency alert systems are improving**.

Now, we will add recovery for the tornadoes to our important ongoing recovery efforts. Meanwhile, we are busy training and gearing up for the start of a new year. I'm confident our GOHSEP team will be ready for any new challenges we may face in 2019.



November tornadoes.



- James Waskom

Virtual Louisiana 2



VL2 is our updated version of Virtual Louisiana which is now the common operational picture for the emergency response community for not only day to day planning, but also during emergency response. Louisiana's Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) launched Virtual Louisiana in August of 2007 and now has updated that platform to VL2 which officially came online in March of 2018.

The VL2 platform is based on the world leading mapping and analytics platform, ArcGIS by [ESRI](#). This allows users to tap into the unique set of capabilities of location-based analytics, collaborate live with other users, share maps, applications and reports.

WebEOC Shelter Manager Updated

The Operations Section recently released an updated version of its Shelter Manager [WebEOC](#) board. The Shelter Manager was developed with input from DCFS and the Red Cross, as well as the Shelter Task Force. The board allows DCFS to track changes in shelter statuses and tally official sheltering statistics, including occupancy totals and population demographics. Parish OHSEP users can add, modify, and remove shelter locations within their parish as needed and can also store planning information for each of their shelter sites. A Shelter Manager training video is available online by visiting the [GOHSEP YouTube channel](#).

Shelter	Type	Parish	Occupancy/Capacity	Opened/Closed	Last Updated
Crowley High School 351 Mansura Road, Crowley	ARC	Acadia Parish	01480	10/23/2018 14:19:08 14:19:08 - 18:00:00	10/23/2018 14:19:08
Crowley Kindergarten 1102 North Mansura, Crowley	ARC	Acadia Parish	008	10/16/2018 13:15:00 13:15:00 - 18:00:00	10/16/2018 13:15:00
Crowley Middle School 441 Mansura Road, Crowley	ARC	Acadia Parish	0254	10/16/2018 13:15:00 13:15:00 - 18:00:00	10/16/2018 13:15:00
Egan Elementary School 216 Egan Highway, Egan, La.	ARC	Acadia Parish	0192	10/16/2018 13:15:00 13:15:00 - 18:00:00	10/16/2018 13:15:00

Continuity of Operations Planning

Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) sites provide an alternate location of operations for personnel to continue mission essential functions with the required resources. A cold backup site is basically a configured space in a building. A warm backup site is already stocked with infrastructure representing reasonably what is necessary to do your job in your office. A hot site would be up and operational 24 hours a day, seven days a week and would be able to functionally be your primary location of work in case of an extreme disaster in your primary location.

GOHSEP Preparedness is currently revising its COOP plan for the agency. Think about necessary equipment, personnel, software, and communication capabilities to assume the functions of your day to day critical missions. Then, stay tuned for your necessary collaboration to create an effective Interagency COOP Plan.

The Latest GOHSEP Get A Game Plan Podcast is Available

Another episode of The GOHSEP Get A Game Plan Podcast is now available for download!

On this episode, we feature The Provisions Project and hear from Annette Marie Girman - Executive Director of The Provisions Project.

The Provisions Project was founded after the Thousand Year flooding of Baton Rouge and the surrounding area in August 2016. The efforts to help communities are

always greatest at the onset of disaster. However through experience in this realm, The Provisions Project founders saw the greatest need during the rebuilding phase and focuses on the long term recovery of communities to assist in acquired



resource management and rebuilding.

The Provisions Project core mission believes in equipping the faith-based community with the necessary tools to respond to disasters efficiently, effectively and confidently. This empowers congregations to play a larger role in the disaster response efforts. They believe faith-based groups are a natural fit for this role as they know their communities and are already serving them.

Subscribe to The [GOHSEP Get A Game Plan Podcast](#) today. Find a link at [GetAGamePlan.org](#) or at your favorite podcast store.

Parish Profile - St John the Baptist

St John the Baptist Parish was devastated by **Hurricane Isaac** on August 28, 2012. The hurricane intensified and made landfall just south-west of the Mississippi River. Hurricane Isaac pushed 8-10 feet of water across the east bank of St John swamping thousands of homes and businesses in its path. Residents of the parish in flooded areas were quickly evacuated and sent to a shelter in the northern part of the State.

As a result of Hurricane Isaac, St John the Baptist was **first in the Nation** to create a **Parish Long-Term Recovery Plan**

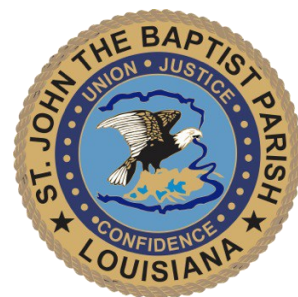


in accordance with the National Disaster Recovery Framework. The plan incorporates the post-storm needs and vision of parish residents in one document, detailing over key projects designed to make the Parish more resilient.

The lack of a barrier between the parish and Lake Pontchartrain makes it vulnerable to flooding caused by storm surge. Hurricane Isaac manifested that vulnerability. Four years after winning a critical go-ahead from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Congress has approved funding for the \$760 million hurricane protection levee designed to protect the east bank of St. John the Baptist Parish, and parts of neighboring St. Charles and St. James parishes from storm surge caused by the occurrence of the so-called 100-year storm, or a hurricane with a 1 percent chance of occurring in any year.

Great work from St. John the Baptist Parish!

Interim Director of Public Safety:
Travis Perrilloux
(985) 652-2222 ext. 1172
travis.perrilloux@stjohn-la.gov
www.sjbparish.com/emergency_index.php



NWS Winter Safety

Cold Weather On The Way
Here Are Some Safety Tips...

- Wear layers of clothing to stay warm. Gloves and a hat will help prevent losing your body heat.
- Don't forget your pets! Bring them indoors or make sure they have enough shelter to stay warm and that they can get to unfrozen water.
- Protect your pipes. Wrap any outdoor pipes to insulate them.
- If you are using a space heater, place it on a level, hard surface and keep anything flammable at least three feet away (clothing, bedding, curtains, rugs, etc).
- If you use a fireplace, use a glass or metal screen large enough to catch any sparks.
- Turn off space heaters and make sure fireplace embers are out before leaving the room or going to bed.
- Never use a stove or oven to heat your home.
- Check on elderly friends and relatives as they are more susceptible to the cold.

NWS New Orleans/Baton Rouge
www.weather.gov/neworleans

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Extremely cold air comes every winter in at least part of the country and affect millions of people across the United States. The arctic air, together with brisk winds, can lead to dangerously cold wind chill values. People exposed to extreme cold are susceptible to **frostbite** in a matter of minutes. Areas most prone to frostbite are uncovered skin and the extremities, such as hands

and feet. Hypothermia is another threat during extreme cold. **Hypothermia** occurs when the body loses heat faster than it can produce.

Cold weather can also affects crops. In late spring or early fall, cold air outbreaks can damage or kill produce for farmers, as well as residential plants and flowers. A freeze occurs when the temperature drops below 32°F. Freezes and their effects are significant during the growing season. Frost develops on clear, calm nights and can occur when the air temperature is in the mid-30s. Each plant species has a different tolerance to cold temperatures. You may also want to check out the National Weather Service [winter safety](http://www.weather.gov/neworleans) site for snow and more cold season hazards information.

Holiday Celebration

It is that time again to celebrate the Holiday Season with our **annual GOHSEP/FEMA Holiday Event**, put together by our employees. This year our employee holiday committee has organized an afterhours holiday celebration at the American Legion Hall.

Please join us on Thursday, **December 13, 2018 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.** Spouses/Guests are welcome to attend. Dress is holiday business casual. As a reminder, this is a holiday celebration for employees put together by employees and attendance is voluntary.

Tickets for attendance are **\$25.00 per person** and will include fun, food, door prizes, dancing and fellowship. The Michael Foster Project with DJ will be performing.

The deadline for tickets will be close of business, November 30, 2018.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Katie Guessfeld (Public Assistance Grants)	11/03
Felice Means (Hazard Mitigation Closeout)	11/05
Michael Hamilton (Operations)	11/05
Jane Ingram (Recovery Grants Administration)	11/08
Claudia Kirtikar (Hazard Mitigation Closeout)	11/12
Christina Dayries (Grants & Administration)	11/13
Casey Tingle (Executive)	11/14
Randall Hart (Public Assistance Technical Services)	11/14
James Waskom (Executive)	11/15
Tenesha Wilson (Hazard Mitigation Grants)	11/15
Tsz Lee (Recovery Grants Administration)	11/16
Austin Dixon (Operations)	11/18
Euclid Talley (Homeland Security)	11/18

Teidra Clark (Hazard Mitigation SALs)	11/19
Steven Garcia (Hazard Mitigation Technical Services)	11/20
Cameron Bass (Public Assistance Closeout)	11/22
Christopher Guilbeaux (Emergency Management)	11/25
Daniel Crothers (Public Assistance Technical Services)	11/25
Sulanda Lonnette (Public Assistance Closeout)	11/25
Glenda Aceves (Public Assistance Closeout)	11/26
Karen Washington (Public Assistance Closeout)	11/26
Marc Aucoin (Public Assistance Grants)	11/27
Alfrika West (Public Assistance Closeout)	11/28
Kimberly Barnett (Hazard Mitigation Grants)	11/28
Chad Hargon (Public Assistance Grants)	11/29
Allison McLeary (Legal)	11/30

UPCOMING EVENTS

To sign up or for more information visit: gohsep.la.gov/resources/training-events-schedule

TRAINING	November 28-29	ICS-400 Advanced Incident Command System - Madisonville, Louisiana
	December 3-7	L0101- Foundations of Emergency Management: Session 1 - Baton Rouge, Louisiana
	January 17, 2019	Hospital Incident Command System - Lake Charles, Louisiana
	January 14-18, 2019	L0101- Foundations of Emergency Management: Session 2 - Baton Rouge, Louisiana
	January 23-24, 2019	MGT-343 Disaster Management for Water and Wastewater Utilities - New Orleans, Louisiana
	January 23-24, 2019	MGT-319 Medical Countermeasures: point of Dispensing, Plan & Response - Houma, Louisiana
OTHER	DEADLINE	
	November 30, 2018	EMPG and SHSP Project Applications Due

PROMOTIONS

Daniel Crothers - Section Chief Technical Services

UPCOMING STATE HOLIDAYS

Thanksgiving	November 22
Acadian Day	November 23
Declared Holiday	December 24
Christmas Day	December 25

NEW HIRES

Kevin James
Assistant Deputy Director, Homeland Security & Interoperability

Derrick Dabney
Recovery Grants Analyst, Recovery Grants Administration

Willie Durio Jr
Recovery Grants Analyst, Recovery Grants Administration

Karen Matthews
Recovery Grants Analyst, Recovery Grants Administration

Lorarick Brown
Administrative Assistant, Recovery Grants Administration

Raina Cazier-Wilson
Operations Officer 1, Operations, Emergency Management

GOHSEP DOOR DECORATING CONTEST

Decorations to be completed by December 11, 2018

Visual Impact



Craftsmanship



Completeness



Most Creative



Holiday Theme

Winners will be announced on December 13, 2018

Request For Articles

If you would like to include an article in future issues of *The GOHSEP Focus*, please contact:
Your designated Agency Representative or Mike Steele
(225) 925-3966
mike.steele@la.gov



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